EP 2 9 2003 EN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

VOGEL ET AL.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Serial No.: 09/645,554

Examiner: HENDRICKSON, S.L.

Filed: August 25, 2000

Title: FURNACE CARBON BLACK, PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION AND USE THEREOF

September 29, 2003

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.111

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the official action dated May 29, 2003, wherein the pending claims were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following remarks.